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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/541,192

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EXAMINER

GODBOLD, DOUGLAS

ART UNIT

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2626

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/541,192	Applicant(s) BISSON ET AL.	
	Examiner DOUGLAS C. GODBOLD	Art Unit 2626	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 July 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to correspondence filed 30 July 2008 in reference to application 10/541,192. Claims 1-13 are pending and have been examined.

Response to Amendment

2. The amendments filed 30 July 2008 have been accepted and considered. the abstract and claims 1,3-5, and 9-12 have been amended and claim 13 added.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-13 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Objections

4. Claim 11 is directed to a method, but is dependent on a device claim. For purposes of examination, claim 11 will be considered to be directed towards a device.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

5. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

6. Claims 2, 3, and 8 recites the limitation "data input" in line 1 of each claim. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

7. Claims 4 and 11 recites the limitation "generating the grammar" in line 1 of each claim. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

9. Claims 1 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Acero et al. (Grammar Learning for Spoken Language Understanding) in view of Meng et al. (Semi-Automatic Acquisition of Domain-Specific Semantic Structures) and further in view of Monaco (US Patent 6,434,523).

10. Consider claim 1, Acero teaches a method for production of a speech recognition interfaces interface for a domain specific to an applied field (abstract), comprising:

building a conceptual model using two main knowledge sources comprising generic grammar and basic vocabulary (Section 2.1 developers author semantic schema. In order to do this they must have knowledge of basic grammar library 2.2 and vocabulary as well. Any developer will have basic vocabulary knowledge for the language in which they are developing the speech system.),

inputting the conceptual model to the speech recognition interface for the applied field (semantic schemas must be entered by developer, section 2.1, and annotation 2.3. input can be domain specific section 2.4),

producing a set of generic grammar rules representative of a class of applications (Section 3.1 semantic constraints are determined from the semantic schemas. Section 4, based on semantic classes, paragraph 2.), and

exemplifying different generic grammar rules whose constraints are satisfied producing grammar for the applied field concerned from the exemplified generic grammar and from a conceptual model (section 4, paragraph 3 shows different inputs that were automatically labeled. These are examples of the grammar rules applied to the specific applied field., in this case, calendar scheduling).

Acero does not specifically teach revising phraseology.

In the same field of semi-automatic grammar rule development, Meng teaches revising phraseology (section VII Post-processing includes replacing tags with meaningful labels, consolidating grammar categories, etc.).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the revisions of Meng with the system of Acero in order to allow for errors to be corrected manually in order for the resultant grammar to more accurately reflect the domain (Meng page 2 paragraph 4).

Acero and Meng do not specifically teach producing explanations of the conceptual model.

In the same field of grammar creation, Monaco teaches producing explanations (grammar specific language objects) of the conceptual model (Col. 6 lines 16-21 and col. 3 lines 61-66, graphical representation of grammar rules are developed)

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use the visual models of Monaco with the system of Acero and Meng in order to allow a representation that allows easier understanding and editing of the grammars; column1 line 59-62).

11. Consider claim 2, Meng teaches the method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the data input is revised and the terms contrary to the semantics of the application concerned are corrected (section VII Post-processing includes pruning irrelevant non-terminals and terminals).

12. Consider claim 3, Meng teaches the method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the data input is revised and new terms are added to enrich the grammar of the applied field (section VII Post-processing includes completing a set of terminals for some categories like days of the week.).

13. Consider claim 4, Monaco teaches the method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the explanations explain rules applied when generating the grammar specific to the applied field (Col. 6 lines 16-21 and col. 3 lines 61-66, graphical representation of grammar rules are developed).

14. Consider claim 5, Acero teaches a device for automatic production of speech recognition interfaces for a domain specific to an applied field (abstract), comprising:

a user interface (inherent in order to enter semantic schema) for building a conceptual model using two main knowledge sources comprising generic grammar and basic vocabulary (Section 2.1 developers author semantic schema. In order to do this they must have knowledge of basic grammar library 2.2 and vocabulary as well. Any developer will have basic vocabulary knowledge for the language in which they are developing the speech system.),

means for conceptual model input (inherent for developer to author schema),

derivation means (Section 3.1 semantic constraints are determined from the semantic schemas. Section 4, based on semantic classes, paragraph 2),

means for providing a generic model (section 3.1, grammar learning is to learn the expression of pre-terminals like heads commands preambles etc. this is generic grammar information) and

means executing grammar specific to the applied field concerned (experimental results section 4, semi-automatically derived grammar is used to parse sentences. Fig 5 shows resulting error rate).

Acero does not specifically teach revising phraseology.

In the same field of semi-automatic grammar rule development, Meng teaches revising phraseology (section VII Post-processing includes replacing tags with meaningful labels, consolidating grammar categories, etc.).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the revisions of Meng with the system of Acero in order to allow for errors to be corrected manually in order for the resultant grammar to more accurately reflect the domain (Meng page 2 paragraph 4).

Acero and Meng do not specifically teach the user interface being configured for displaying and producing explanations of the conceptual model.

In the same field of grammar creation, Monaco teaches displaying and producing explanations (grammar specific language objects) of the conceptual model (Col. 6 lines 16-21 and col. 3 lines 61-66, graphical representation of grammar rules are developed)

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use the visual models of Monaco with the system of Acero and Meng in order to allow a representation that allows easier understanding and editing of the grammars; column1 line 59-62).

15. Consider claim 6, Meng teaches the device as claimed in claim 5, wherein further comprising revision means (section VII Post-processing).

16. Consider claim 7, Meng teaches the device as claimed in claim 5, wherein further comprising explanation means (Col. 6 lines 16-21 and col. 3 lines 61-66, graphical representation of grammar rules are developed).

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17. Consider claim 8, Meng teaches the method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the data input is revised and new terms are added to enrich the grammar of the applied field (section VII Post-processing includes completing a set of terminals for some categories like days of the week.).

18. Consider claim 9, Monaco teaches the method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the explanations explain rules applied when generating the grammar specific to the applied field (Col. 6 lines 16-21 and col. 3 lines 61-66, graphical representation of grammar rules are developed).

19. Consider claim 10, Monaco teaches the method as claimed in claim 3, wherein the explanations explain rules applied when generating the grammar specific to the applied field (Col. 6 lines 16-21 and col. 3 lines 61-66, graphical representation of grammar rules are developed).

20. Consider claim 11, Monaco teaches the device as claimed in claim 5, wherein the explanations explain rules applied when generating the grammar specific to the applied field (Col. 6 lines 16-21 and col. 3 lines 61-66, graphical representation of grammar rules are developed).

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21. Consider claim 12, Meng teaches the device as claimed in claim 6, wherein further comprising explanation means (Col. 6 lines 16-21 and col. 3 lines 61-66, graphical representation of grammar rules are developed).

22. Consider claim 13, Acero teaches a method for producing a speech recognition interface for a domain specific to a selected application (abstract) comprising:

describing, using input means, the resources specific to the selected application, by verbalizing concepts using a formal model of the selected application to establish a conceptual model and the vocabulary of the selected application (Section 2.1 developers author semantic schema. In order to do this they must have knowledge of basic grammar library 2.2 and vocabulary as well. Any developer will have basic vocabulary knowledge for the language in which they are developing the speech system. Developers use an XML based approach that sets up what is needed for the application.),

using derivation of the specific resources and generic resources to compute a linguistic model and vocabulary of sub-language dedicated to the speech recognition interface for said application when the resources specific to the application are acquired (Section 3.1 semantic constraints are determined from the semantic schemas. Section 4, based on semantic classes, paragraph 2),

inputting a set of statements of this sub-language, as well as the knowledge relating to the application and needed to manage an operator-system dialog (section 4,

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experimental sentences are used to test the system, in this case relating to date and calendars.), and

executing the resulting speech recognition interface on an selected environment to validate the interface (Figure 5 shows recognition result errors using the grammar semi-automatically determined.).

Acero does not specifically teach displaying and revising all or some of the input sub-language in order for a user to refine phraseology of this input by adding, deleting or modifying the phraseology.

In the same field of semi-automatic grammar rule development, Meng teaches revising phraseology by adding, deleting or modifying the phraseology (section VII Post-processing includes replacing tags with meaningful labels, consolidating grammar categories, completing terminals, removing irrelevant terminals.).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the revisions of Meng with the system of Acero in order to allow for errors to be corrected manually in order for the resultant grammar to more accurately reflect the domain (Meng page 2 paragraph 4).

Acero and Meng do not specifically teach producing explanations which make it possible to automatically identify conceptual and vocabulary data input by the user from which a given characteristic of a statement or a set of statements of the sub-language originates,

In the same field of grammar creation, Monaco teaches producing explanations (grammar specific language objects) which make it possible to automatically identify

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conceptual and vocabulary data input by the user from which a given characteristic of a statement or a set of statements of the sub-language originates.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use the visual models of Monaco with the system of Acero and Meng in order to allow a representation that allows easier understanding and editing of the grammars; column1 line 59-62).

Conclusion

23. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DOUGLAS C. GODBOLD whose telephone number is

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(571)270-1451. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 7:00am-4:30pm Friday 7:00am-3:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Patrick Edouard can be reached on (571) 272-7603. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

DCG

/Patrick N. Edouard/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2626